

**From:** [Laura Reigle](#)  
**To:** [Brown, Don](#); [Halloran, Brad](#)  
**Cc:** [Laura Reigle](#)  
**Subject:** [External] Public Comment: Strong Opposition to CITGO Lemont Refinery Petition (Docket No. AS 2026-001)  
**Date:** Wednesday, June 3, 2026 12:05:06 PM

---

Dear Clerk of the Board and Members of the Illinois Pollution Control Board,

I am writing as a concerned community member to strongly oppose the petition filed by CITGO Petroleum Corporation seeking an adjusted standard under Docket No. AS [2026-001](#).

CITGO is requesting relief from Illinois carbon monoxide (CO) emission standards for certain boilers and heaters during Startup, Shutdown, and Maintenance (SSM) events. I urge the Illinois Pollution Control Board to deny this request.

Residents living near and downwind of the refinery already shoulder significant environmental impacts associated with industrial operations. Allowing higher emissions during SSM periods—when equipment performance is inherently less stable—would increase the potential for air quality degradation and place additional burdens on surrounding communities.

Granting an adjusted standard would effectively create an exception to environmental protections that were established to safeguard public health. Rather than relaxing compliance requirements, major industrial facilities should be expected to invest in operational improvements, maintenance practices, and emission-control technologies necessary to meet existing standards.

The Board's responsibility is to protect Illinois residents and ensure that environmental regulations are applied fairly and consistently. Creating facility-specific exemptions risks undermining public confidence in the regulatory process and may expose nearby residents to avoidable pollution.

For these reasons, I respectfully request that the Illinois Pollution Control Board deny CITGO's petition and require full compliance with existing Illinois emission standards.

Thank you for your time, consideration, and commitment to protecting the health and safety of Illinois communities.

Sincerely,

Sent from my iPhone